intensified to produce tissue culture based vaccines within the country.

Welfare Fund for Advocates

2546. SHRI R. MARGABANDU: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state whether Government have some proposals to allot a portion of fund from plan outlay towards the welfare fund for advocates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): No, Sir.

Proposal to increase HBA/Loan for Government Employees

2547. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:
SHRI RAJNATH SINGH:
SHRI JAGDAMBI MANDAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at present Government employees are getting House Building Advance/Loan from the Central Government upto a maximum of 50 months basic pay which is too less compared to the hike of prices of raw materials and other essential building materials;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to increase the House Building Advance/Loan in favour of Government employees in the near future; and

(d) by when the amount is likely to be increased and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) At present House Building Advance admissible to Central Government employees is 50 months basic pay subject to a maximum of Rs. 2.5 lakhs. This was fixed in June, 1987 consequent upon recommendations of the 4th Central Pay Commission. Since then there has been substantial rise in the prices of building materials.

(c) and (d) The question of revising the present admissibility of House Building Advance to Government employees has been considered by the Government but it has been decided that recommendations of the Fifth Central Pay Commission in this regard may be awaited.

Evolving Code for 'Corporate Governance'

2548. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have evolved any formal code of "Corporate Governance" by asking/seeking suggestions from FIs on an enhanced role in the functioning of companies, as reported in the Financial Express, New Delhi dated 29th November, 1996;

(b) whether any seminar on "Corporate Governance" was recently organised in New Delhi;

(c) if so, whether any guidelines on the role of FIs nominee directors and transparency and disclosures by Indian companies was discussed; and

(d) whether Government have compared Indian companies role between Anglo-Saxon model or Japanese model, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Government has not evolved any code on "Corporate Governance". However, Government had suggested to some Financial Institutions to study the practices of Corporate Governance by major Indian Corporates vis-a-vis the recommendations of the Cadbury Committee.

(b) to (d) The seminar on "Corporate Governance" was organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry in collaboration with Egon Zehnder International and not by Government.